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MEMORANDUM

17 March 1951

TO: Chief, FDM  
Att: C 1  
FROM: Chief, FDP  
SUBJECT: Dimitri Dimanescu

1. The following information is available on Dimitri Dimanescu, who is believed to be identical with the Dimanescu (fnu) who was reportedly associated with Richard Franassovici, former Rumanian Minister to London, in subverting an unidentified secretary of Maurice Cowie de Harville in New York City in 1946.

2. Dimitri Dimanescu was born at Titu, Rumania, on 7 July 1896 and educated in Bucharest, Paris and Pittsburg. He served as a lieutenant in the Rumanian army in the first World War and is believed to have been one of the organizers of Carol's return to the throne in 1930. Thereafter he came to the United States, where he obtained an engineering degree and joined the Society of American Industrial Engineers. While in the United States he entered the Rumanian diplomatic service, serving as vice-consul in Pittsburg and consul-general in San Francisco.

3. Early in 1937 Dimanescu was transferred as Counsellor of Legation to London, where his real function was counteracting the unfavorable publicity on King Carol appearing in the British press. He was recalled to Bucharest to organize a Propaganda Ministry, but returned to London as Press Counsellor in 1939. Subject was the first person in the Rumanian Legation in London to break with his government after the establishment of the Antonescu-Iron Guard Government and the abdication of Carol in September 1940. Dimanescu reportedly favored the Allies at this time, although he collaborated with Viorel Tillea; both men supported Carol and opposed Iuliu Maniu, Chief of the Rumanian National Peasant Party. Subject was employed by the "Political Intelligence Department" of the British Foreign Office from 1941 to 1943. In June 1944 he obtained a permit to accept employment with an engineering firm in Letchworth, Herts. Little more was heard of him until the end of the war.

4. In November 1945 Subject got in touch with the Rumanian Delegation to the World Youth Congress meeting in London. In April 1946 he was in close communication with Richard Franassovici, Rumanian Political Representative (later Minister) to London, for whom he did translation work. He accompanied Franassovici to the Paris Peace Conference in September 1946 and later in the same year came to the United States. At about this time, he was appointed Counsellor at the Rumanian Legation in London and in January 1947 was hoping to be appointed to the Rumanian Legation in Washington. In August 1947 he was recalled from London. There is no evidence that he was a Communist, but he appears to have accepted the Communist regime. (Information in paragraphs 2-4, inclusive, obtained from C 1A622, dated 31 October 1947).

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5. Brutus Coste, a former Rumanian diplomat then residing in Portugal, requested the Portuguese not to issue visas to Dimitri Dimanescu and certain other persons if King Carol was in Portugal. (Information from [redacted], see IN-25374, 11 October 1947).

6. Dimitri Dimanescu, former Rumanian diplomat, industrial engineer, living in Marrakech, had applied for a U.S. visa. He desired to go to California to consult General Farrell, USMR, John Gallois and Jerome Politzer relative to forming a U.S. holding company to finance mining, irrigation and cinema interests in Morocco. His only document was Rumanian passport No. 571, issued 10 October 1946. Subject claimed to have terminated relations with the present Rumanian regime and to consider himself as stateless. No further information on subject was available. (Information contained in [redacted] 2-5, 19 April 1949).